

Application for 2008-2010



STARR

SELECT TEACHERS AS REGIONAL RESOURCES

A Unique Professional Development Opportunity — Teachers Teaching Teachers

STARR is a state-level professional development program for Missouri schools created under provisions of the Outstanding Schools Act.

The STARR program, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, provides an exciting, innovative and motivational professional development program for teachers throughout the state of Missouri. For the past twelve years top classroom teachers have been recruited to learn about and then share with their colleagues instructional practices which have been proven most effective in helping students to become successful in school.

The emphasis of the STARR program is on school improvement through the use of authentic

instructional techniques. Teachers learn how to teach so that students become actively involved in their own learning. Teaching becomes a process of integrating “knowing” and “doing” so that students at all levels can combine and apply their knowledge more powerfully in real-life situations.

Newly Selected STARR Teachers 2008-2009

In May a new group of STARR teachers will be selected. After an introductory team-building retreat, the Department will provide these teachers with seminars in June, July, and August held by nationally known consultants.

Other seminars with national consultants and state experts will be held once a month during the school year (no sessions in December). STARR teachers will have the opportunity to attend and/or present at both the Pathways Conference and Missouri Staff Development Council conference in March. All seminars will be closely

connected to authentic instruction (also referred to as “active learning” or “hands-on learning”) and state initiatives. Topics to be introduced are experiential learning, reading strategies, cooperative learning, questioning skills and strategies, motivation, brain research on how students learn and related instructional strategies, problem-based learning, structures for higher-level thinking, reading, writing, assessment, building academic vocabulary, curriculum alignment, depth of knowledge (DOK) and Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) strategies, presentation techniques and more.

“The STARR program revitalized my teaching and gave me the opportunity to reach my students in new and invigorating ways. It truly is high quality professional development.”

— Erica Doennig
STARR Teacher, Diamond

“The STARR program has given me the opportunity to collaborate with top-notch Missouri educators and extend my knowledge of research-based best practices. I am a forever changed educator because of this program.”

— Laura Grayson
STARR Teacher, Mehlville

Sponsored by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Deadline: April 11, 2008

After each seminar throughout the school year, STARR teachers will return to their classes at their home schools to practice the skills and techniques learned.

Selection for Regional Professional Development Centers

Between September 1, 2008 and January 31, 2009, teachers will be selected from the trained STARR teachers to serve in the Regional Professional Development Centers (RPDCs) for the upcoming school year. The selected STARR teachers will go on leave, made possible by funding from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The teachers will remain on their district's salary schedule during the year of leave, will remain in the Missouri Retirement System and be entitled to all benefits available from their school district.

The STARR teachers will be available to conduct seminars in authentic instruction for schools and school districts in the regions surrounding the nine university sites where they will maintain offices for the year.

Each of the following state universities will be hosting STARR teachers:

- Central Missouri State University
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Southeast Missouri State University

New STARR Teachers to Be Selected for 2008-2010

The timeline for the selection and inservice of new STARR teachers is as follows:

- February 15**Information and application forms sent to superintendents, principals, CTA presidents, professional development chairpersons, teachers' organizations
- April 11**Applications due to the Department of Education
- April 16-20**Applications reviewed by selection committee
- May 1-30**Final applicants are interviewed
- May 31**STARR teachers informed of their selection

- Missouri State University
- Truman State University
- University of Missouri-Kansas City
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- Missouri University of Science and Technology
- University of Missouri-St. Louis.

STARR teachers will conduct seminars during or after regular school hours or on Saturdays.

The Department will pay for the STARR teachers' presentation-related expenses. All other costs (material costs or copies) must be paid for by the school or district that requested the inservice.

Teachers who participate in seminars conducted by STARR teachers will be asked to evaluate the inservice received. The Department also evaluates the overall STARR program.

Teachers that were not selected to serve in the RPDCs have the opportunity to reapply and continue with the program for a second year of training.

Future STARRs

The Department select additional STARR teachers this spring. While the present group of STARRs provides staff development programs throughout the state, the next group is being prepared to replace them the next year.

If this program sounds exciting to you, then apply! STARR teachers come from small schools to large schools, and they come with different backgrounds. We want a variety of participants, so don't let anything keep you from applying.

How to Apply

Practicing public school classroom teachers with at least three successful years of teaching experience may apply to be STARR teachers. To apply for the 2008-2010 program, complete the enclosed application form. Send the completed form with the requested attachments to:

The STARR Program
Division of Teacher Quality and Urban Education
P.O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

The application can also be found on the Web at: <http://www.dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/starr/>. **The deadline for applications is April 11, 2008.**

A selection committee appointed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will review the applications and select teachers to participate in the interview process. Final selection will be made by the end of May, 2008.

Questions?

If you have questions about the Missouri STARR program, contact Linda Dooling, director of professional development at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (573-751-3963).

STARR Program Commitments

The Teacher's Commitment

Teachers who wish to become STARR teachers must be willing to make a two-year commitment.

During 2008-2009, they must agree to:

- Participate in summer seminars in June, July, and August, 2008 (a three-week commitment). These workshops are sponsored by the STARR program, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Participants will receive \$100 per day (if not contract days) plus mileage, food, and hotel expenses.

- Practice in their regular classes throughout the school year, the skills and techniques learned.

- Meet at least 12 days statewide during the school year to attend seminars, to receive feedback, to further develop skills, and to participate in other follow-up activities. The Department will pay for all expenses STARR teachers incur as participants in the scheduled seminars and/or follow-up sessions (materials, supplies, mileage, food and hotel). Districts are reimbursed the cost for substitute teachers.

During 2009-2010, selected STARR teachers must agree to:

- Go on leave, supported by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, from their school districts to provide in-service for other Missouri teachers. Each STARR team will share office space at each of the nine designated state universities.

- Inform key school district personnel about the program, conduct meetings to discuss the program, and be available to conduct seminars and work with staffs of schools or school districts in their regions.

- Maintain flexible schedules so that they are available to make presentations at times most convenient for the schools and school districts requesting assistance. Although STARR teachers will not be expected to work more than 40 hours a week, including travel time, they will be expected to conduct seminars outside of regular

school hours, including after school and on Saturdays. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will reimburse STARR teachers for expenses they incur in conducting seminars, including materials, supplies, mileage, meals and other appropriate expenses.

- Serve as resource people and consultants for teacher-education programs at the host universities.

- Partner with initiatives in the RPDCs.

- Present at workshops/conferences.

The School District's Commitment

A school district that endorses a teacher's participation in the STARR program also makes a two-year commitment.

During 2008-2009, the school district must:

- Support the teacher's attending the summer seminars on authentic instruction.

- Encourage the teacher to practice in their regular classrooms the techniques and skills learned in the seminars.

- Support the teacher's participation in follow-up activities that will require a minimum of 12 days during the school year.

During 2009-2010, the school district must:

- Allow the teacher to be absent from the regular classroom for the year.

- Grant the teacher salary and benefits equal to those the teacher would have received had he or she remained in the classroom (includes the opportunity to participate in Career Ladder, if the District participates and district/state incentives for National Board Certification, if offered).

The Department pays the salary and fringe benefits of a replacement teacher on the **first step** of the salary schedule. Since the district would pay the salary of the local teacher whether he or she remains in the home district or participates in the STARR program, there is no additional cost to the dis-

trict if the STARR teacher is replaced by a teacher on step one of the salary schedule. If the district replaces the STARR teacher with a more experienced teacher, the difference of the cost is paid by the district.

The State's Commitment

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will support the 2008-2010 STARR program by:

- Providing summer seminars on authentic instruction for STARR teachers and paying participants \$100 per day plus expenses (if not under contract with the district).

- Sponsoring meetings, involving at least 12 school days, for the purposes of instruction, feedback, further development of skills, and other follow-up activities.

- Paying for materials, supplies, mileage, room and board whenever such expenses are incurred by STARR teachers participating in seminars or follow-up meetings sponsored by the Department.

- Paying for substitute teachers when it is necessary for STARR teachers to be out of the classroom for inservice or follow-up activities sponsored by the Department.

- Paying for materials, mileage, meals and other appropriate expenses incurred by STARR teachers while conducting professional development seminars.

- Granting to each STARR teacher's district financial assistance equal to the salary and fringe benefits of a teacher on the **first step of the district's salary schedule**.

- Providing the faculties at the host universities with the opportunity to integrate training developed through the STARR program into their teacher-education programs.

- Provide the opportunity for STARR teachers to attend the Pathways Conference and the Missouri Staff Development Conference by paying registration and necessary expenses, if the district allows their attendance. Substitute teacher cost would be paid to the sending district.

Missouri's STARR Teachers, 2007-2008

STARR teachers, presently serving in the Regional Professional Development Centers, along with their school districts, are listed below according to the locations where they are based in 2007-2008.

Cape Girardeau (573-651-5956)

Southeast Missouri State University

- Debora Lintner, Jackson R-II
- Pamela Lowe, Poplar Bluff R-I
- Tiffney Smith, Jackson R-II

Columbia (800-551-0959)

University of Missouri-Columbia

- Beth Houf, Fulton 58
- Lori Kilfoil, Columbia 93

Kansas City (816-235-2483)

University of Missouri-Kansas City

- Ida Cessna, Kearney R-I
- Patricia Dailey, North Kansas City 74
- Kathy Lassiter, Kansas City 33

Kirksville (660-785-7497)

Truman State University

- Melia Franklin, Marceline R-V
- Patrick Harrison, Hannibal 60

Maryville (877-440-1996)

Northwest Missouri State University

- Lysander Overstreet, Hamilton R-II
- Darbie Valenti, North Andrew R-VI

Rolla (573-341-4310)

Missouri University of Science and Technology

- Betty Ennis, St. Clair R-XIII
- Susan King, Lebanon R-III

Springfield (417-829-5057)

Missouri State University

- Erica Doennig, Diamond R-IV
- Amelia Yates, Ash Grove R-IV

St. Louis (314-692-9733)

University of Missouri-St. Louis

- Susan Bergman, Rockwood R-VI
- Laura Grayson, Mehlville R-IX
- Sherri Sampson, Parkway C-2

Warrensburg (660-543-8242)

University of Central Missouri

- Carolyn Compton, Sheldon R-VIII
- Beth Vernon, Blue Springs R-IV

"It was so amazing to work with not only nationally known presenters, but with outstanding educators throughout the state as well. Everyone shared a common goal, which was to better equip ourselves to meet student needs, therefore making them more successful in their learning."

— Darbie Valenti

STARR Teacher, North Andrew



"The STARR Program has allowed me to network with national leaders in the field of education as well as the best educators around the state of Missouri. It has offered an incredible opportunity to share best practices with enthusiastic teachers from a variety of educational settings."

— Ida Cessna

STARR Teacher, Kearney



Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

<http://dese.mo.gov>

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Title IX Coordinator, 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-751-4212.